

# **CLAIMS**

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. An adapter having an integrated ballast and  
starting arrangement for annular fluorescent lamps  
having a pin base for connecting the adapter to  
conventional incandescent lamp sockets, the  
10 adapter having a housing for accommodating the  
integrated ballast and starting arrangement and a  
concentric attachment, having a screw or bayonet  
base, being attached to this housing, the housing  
having a substantially cuboidal configuration and  
15 lying substantially within the space enclosed by  
the annular fluorescent lamp, and a holder, which  
partially encloses the pin base of the fluorescent  
lamp or the discharge vessel of the fluorescent  
lamp, being attached to each of the two ends of  
20 the housing, the first holder also containing a  
socket for accommodating and making electrical  
contact with the pin base and the second holder  
having a sliding apparatus for locking the annular  
fluorescent lamp.
- 25 2. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
housing of the adapter is assembled from a lower  
part, an upper part and a sliding part.
3. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
30 ballast and starting arrangement is mounted on a  
board.
4. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
electrical clamping contacts of the pin base  
35 socket are mounted on a board which is  
electrically connected to the electrical

connections of the board of the ballast and starting arrangement.

5.     The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
5       electrical clamping contacts of the pin base  
       socket are mounted on the board of the ballast and  
       starting arrangement.
6.     The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
10      holder with the pin base socket comprises in each  
       case at least one extension, in the form of a  
       hook, of the lower part and at least one  
       extension, in the form of a hook, of the upper  
       part of the housing, which together enclose the  
15      fluorescent lamp in the form of a semicircle.
7.     The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
       holder with the sliding apparatus comprises at  
       least one extension, in the form of a hook, of the  
20      lower part of the housing, on which the  
       fluorescent lamp rests, as well as the sliding  
       part, the sliding part having at least one  
       extension, in the form of a hook, for holding the  
       lamp vessel, resting on the upper part of the  
25      housing and being capable of being displaced in  
       the direction of the longitudinal axis of the  
       housing for the purpose of locking the lamp.
8.     The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the  
30      sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having  
       in each case one rib which extends in the  
       longitudinal direction of the base housing, close  
       to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib  
       engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside  
35      of the side walls of the base lower part.

9. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has, on the two flanks, a locking part in the form of a rectangular section which is cut out of the flank wall and is fixedly connected to the flank wall only on the side remote from the base lower part.
10. The adapter as claimed in claim 9, wherein the locking part has projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the outside, close to the edge facing the base lower part, which projections, when the adapter is assembled, engage in corresponding projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.